

WRESTLING FORUM

NOVEMBER 30, 1987

VOLUME II

ISSUE 22

THE "I SURVIVED STARRCADE ISSUE...
or the "we forgot to buy colored paper
for the cover" issue.....

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WAKE UP CALL

Let me set the stage for you: It's 2:00 am and I'm about an hour and a half into my comatose sleep. The phone rings. Usually a freight train could run through my living room when I'm asleep and I'd never know it, but a phone call always at least elicits an instinctive response. I answer with a garbled H'LOH...

"Do you watch wrestling at all?"

(What is this? Mr. Neilson calling at 2 am?) Yeah. Every chance I get. Why?

"Did you happen to see the November 7th show on TBS?"

(Just what I need at this time of the morning...cross examination!) I dunno. I suppose.

"Well, then you aren't paying attention. That's when they announced that Starrcade will be shown in the closed circuit locations at 8 pm, but the live show and pay per view would stay at 5!"

Oh.

"Didn't you see that show?"

Yeah. But it's real hard to read lips when you're watching in the fast forward mode.

"And another thing. It wasn't Ranger Ross that had the glass eye. It was C.W. Styles. The guy that is wrestling as Doctor D down in Memphis. You said they pulled out Ranger Ross' glass eye."

My apologies to Mr. Ross. I'm sure he was shocked to hear that he had a glass eye and no one bothered to tell him about it.

"Well anyway that's it. Did I wake you?"

No. I'm always this coherent.

"I'll bet I did."

Think nothing of it. I had to get up to answer the phone anyway.

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Welcome back to yet another edition of Wrestling Forum. Last issue was put together while I was asleep, I think. But at least everyone seemed to enjoy it. Just to get this out of the way, we publish on the 15th and 30th of each month with the mailing taking place the next day. Cost per issue is \$1.25 and you can subscribe in any amount upto six months worth.

Other than that, things have been pretty quiet around here up until the night before Thanksgiving. My new job is severely limiting the number of phone calls I get and a lot of you are finding that I am extremely hard to catch. I'm home most nights by 11:30 pm (central time). Weekends are a little hectic and will be between now and Christmas but for the most part, I'm here off and on Saturdays and Sundays.

This entire issue is being put together from Thanksgiving day on. That means I don't have a lot of time to do things the way we usually do. The NWA and UWF reports have been combined to report on the Long Island Show and Starrcade. Survivor will take the usual WWF report for the most part. Wrestlers Are People Too will return next issue (unless something doesn't come in as scheduled in which case it's here). Next issue will have one extra page as part of our Christmas issue.

Well, there's 27 blank pages staring back at me, so it's time to get to work. Enjoy the I SURVIVED STARRCADE issue. Onto the news and regular features:

BY JEFF SIEGEL

GREAT NEWS on the Barometer front! A record number of ballots -- 27 to be exact -- ensures that the Barometer WILL live on, at least into the immediate future! Thanks to everyone who sent their thoughts along (especially the gang at Pro Wrestling Illustrated). Now, let's keep up the participation, and the Barometer will turn into exactly what we thought it could when we started it up: one of the most meaningful features in the world of wrestling fanzines!

For those who are reading for the first time, welcome to the November edition of the Wrestling Barometer. It's Wrestling Forum's unique and exclusive census of what's hot and what's not in professional wrestling!

To quickly review the procedure that's used for tallying Barometer entries: 5 points are awarded for a 1st place vote, 3 points for a 2nd place vote, 1 point for a 3rd place vote, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  point for every item that is included on a voter's list from 4th place on. Then, a minimum point total is arbitrarily decided upon for inclusion in this column. The minimum point total allows us to focus on the month's major trends.

Now that we've gotten all that out of the way, let's get on to the November balloting:

W H A T ' S     H O T  
(needed to qualify: 25 points)

1. Honkytonk Man's video ( $46\frac{1}{2}$  points)
2. The Battle of Thanksgiving (38 points)
3. NWA invading New York/Nassau Coliseum ( $35\frac{1}{2}$  points)
4. Oldtimer's Battle Royal (28 points)
5. Paul E Dangerously's interviews ( $27\frac{1}{2}$  points)

W H A T ' S     N O T  
(needed to qualify: 25 points)

1. The Survivor Series (36 points)
2. Piledriver Promos ( $34\frac{1}{2}$  points)
3. Rhodes' handling of the UWF (31 points)
4. Garvin Title defenses (29 points)
5. Kerry Von Erich's return ( $28\frac{1}{2}$  points)
6. Scaffold matches (25 points)

NOTES: As was to be expected, the record number of entries resulted in a record number of point totals and qualifiers. In line with that, Honkytonk Man's video set a new record with  $46\frac{1}{2}$  total points...interestingly enough, despite HTM's good showing, the Piledriver album and its promos finished a strong second on the down side...As predicted last month, the Battle of Thanksgiving fared very well. In fact, it's kind of a surprise that HTM scored a pretty convincing victory of the Battle. Guess it's as surprising as a similar win by HTM in 1987...You've got to hand it to Dusty Rhodes. What you should hand him, I'm not sure -- but the man continues to find new and creative ways to qualify for WHAT'S NOT. This time around, it's his butchering of the UWF...Nice showing by the Oldtimer's Battle Royal. Consensus is that smart fans would like to see this concept catch on (a last link to the "good ole days", maybe?). The question is, though, "can the real oldtimers hack more than a half dozen of these matches a year?"...Interesting comment by Stephen Meyerson of Brooklyn on the Battle of Thanksgiving. Says Stephen, "It's like putting the American League and National League playoff games on at the same time!" Not a bad analogy, Stephen, but remember the AL and NL are part of the same "corporation". Titan and JCP are not...

The deadline for December Barometer ballots is 12/22. Let's keep up the participation that "saved" the barometer this month. Entries should be sent to:

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EVANSTON, IL 60204

## AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

make sure your thanksgiving dinner is well digested and there's plenty of Pepto on hand; what I'm about to give you isn't pleasant. As of Thanksgiving night, Greg Gagne is the new AWA champion.

The match between Greg and Curt Henning had been brewing for some time as both fathers (Verne and Larry) had gotten involved. The AWA had ruled that both fathers could be at ringside providing they bought tickets. Before the match, referee Scott LeDoux checked both Larry and Verne for their ticket stubs before allowing either to be in the audience. Larry's wasn't on in half, but over looking that small detail is only par for the course. The match was reportedly excellent with Curt taking some awesome bumps. The outside of the ring action was what made the match outstanding. The end came with Greg holding Curt in a sleeper. Larry Henning ran to the ring to protest and Scott LeDoux came out of the ring to argue with him. The got into some shoving and punching while Verne snuck up to the ring and hit Curt with a roll of quarters. LeDoux returned to the ring to make the three count. Instead of Greg celebrating his victory, the match then ended with a giant brawl with the standard pull apart ending. Greg returned to the dressing room with belt in hand and no announcement was made that the decision had been reversed (of course this has happened before with the entire crowd leaving thinking that the belt had changed hands only to be fooled). The match was taped for TV and I suppose that Stanley Blackburn could eventually reverse the decision. A return is almost guaranteed (Possibly with the belt being held up) for Christmas night.

Also on the card, DJ Peterson defeated Kevin Kelly to win the services of Medusa Micelli for a month. Had Peterson lost, he would have been required to leave the AWA. Kelly had Peterson set for a bodyslam, but DJ had a hold of the ropes. Medusa hit his hand with shoe but it threw Kelly off balance and DJ got the pin.

Nord the Barbarian is doing some hilarious commercials for his family's car dealership. He comes out and says, "No credit? We don't care! No down payment? We don't care! Don't make your payments? Then we care!" and then he either suplexes or slams some poor guy on the hood of a car. The latest in the series of commercials is the best yet. He goes through his speel and when he gets to the "Don't make your payments" part, he jumps up on the hood only to be confronted with a very nice looking girl. He stops, then deadpans to the camera, "She's got until Wednesday."

Speaking of not making car payments, I understand that at least one of the AWA wrestlers has had his car repossessed due to lack of payments made due to lack of work. Tough situation. It's sometimes hard to remember that these wrestlers have the same family commitments that all of us do.

The Memphis deal is off, but then again, Verne may not be in a position much longer to say no. The only card booked for the entire month of December at this point is the Christmas show in Minneapolis. He has already announced that they will not be running in Denver anymore and a battle royal in San Francisco reportedly drew less than 500 (and you must remember, SF is a battle royal town). He's lost Chicago, the building he's been using in Minneapolis is being torn down in January, Milwaukee doesn't draw nor does Green Bay, so it looks like time has run out barring any sort of minor miracle. Wrestlers are openly looking for other work and you can't blame them. If the AWA is alive in any capacity after the first of the year, I will be surprised. Verne is going to have to pull several aces out of his sleeve to pull out of this one.

Dick Slater may be history as he missed his Thanksgiving Night match with Wahoo due to an "injury suffered in a battle royal". Sure.

## SECOND ANNUAL 128 MAN ELIMINATION TOURNEY

by Sean Grande

Here are the final results of the 1987 tournament as decided by your votes:

### THE SEVENTH PLACE MATCH:

Tatsumi Fujinami 11 Bobby Eaton 11 (3 draws)  
the two tie for seventh place.

### THE FIFTH PLACE MATCH:

Barry Windham 13 Bruiser Brody 12  
Windham takes fifth place

### THE THIRD PLACE MATCH:

Ric Flair 21 Road Warrior Hawk 3 (1 draw)  
Flair takes third.

### THE CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH:

TED DIBIASE 15 RANDY SAVAGE 9 (1 draw)  
Ted DiBiase winner and NEEEEEEW (doing our  
best Howard Finkel impression) Wrestling  
Forum champion!

TOURNEY FACTS: DiBiase set a new total number of votes received record with 163 besting last year's record of 162 by Ric Flair. Flair, however, gained that total number in one less match....Road Warrior Hawk held a 3-2 lead over Flair, so Flair captured the next 19 straight votes to win...we were somewhat worried at one point that we might have to pull an "AWA" and award the championship to Randy Savage by default...According to the rules of the tourney, if a wrestler is injured in real life while he is scheduled to wrestle in the tourney, he must forfeit his match in the tourney due to the injury...Ted made it back in action just in time....Sean will be drawing for the prizes during the coming week, and winners will be announced next issue. If you have any ideas, and/or suggestions for next year's tourney, be sure and let us know.

## NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

Before I get into the details of Starrcade, let me give you some other tidbits first (this is called stalling until the tape arrives). I understand that Dusty Rhodes and Jim Crockett had a meeting this past week which brought forth some interesting revelations. The meeting was the result of recent TV ratings that are being tabulated, and the numbers are not good. From what I understand of the TV ratings game, a company like JCP will go to its advertisers and tell them what share of the audience their product has for a given TV show. The advertising rates (the dollar amount the advertiser pays) is based on that number of people. Crockett has been telling advertisers that he has a seven share. This means that seven percent of the nation's 88.6 million TV homes are watching his shows, or 6.2 million homes. That's the figure he's been basing his ad rates on and has been going to advertisers with. The latest figures show that he's dropped to a 5.4 share. On the surface that might not seem like a big drop (just a minus 1.6) but that drop represents a drop to only 4.8 million viewing homes or a difference of almost a million and a half homes that aren't watching his show. Because of this, he's having to rebate advertising money to the advertisers. These figures do not even include the show on TBS as its book runs behind several months so there's nothing recent to go by.

So, a million and a half homes that had been watching the NWA suddenly aren't. Crockett bought the UWF to get their TV network so this drop in viewers virtually negates everything they had gained by that purchase. So Crockett is basically at the same place he started, just with a whole lot less money than he had. Crockett is starting to point fingers, and they are being aimed at Dusty. I've been told that Jim has given Dusty a deadline to reverse this trend or else.

One thing they hope to accomplish is the setting up of several angles over the next few weeks. For the next five to six weeks, we can probably plan on something major happening on either the syndicated show or the TBS show (it won't matter which, as we'll get to see it eventually). This is all leading up to the next pay per view spectacular planned for January 24 and will be the finals of the bunkhouse stampedes (I wonder if Dusty will be all upset that everyone now knows that December's big shows are going to come down to a tie?). With what Titan pulled on Thanksgiving, I would imagine that they won't let January 24th slip by without some sort of counter move. I have no idea at this point what they would pull, but I'd bet the rent they'll have something happen to counteract Jim and Dusty.

This next came in just before we went to press last time and I didn't print it or mention it until I'd received some sort of confirmation on it. This still remains a rumor, however one that has some evidence that leads me to believe it. What supposedly happened about two weeks ago was that Steve Williams and Dusty got in to it over how Dusty was handling the UWF and its wrestlers. The meeting almost became physical and ended, according to sources, with Doc walking out before anything could happen. He and Dusty eventually made up with Dusty asking him some more promises. Now I know Dusty has the second biggest ego in wrestling but I don't think that would even be enough to override his common sense if there ever was a physical confrontation between him and Doc.

The night before Thanksgiving saw the first NWA show in New York in about two years. The last show was a combination affair with the AWA in the Meadowlands early in 1986. I've received about six phone calls on the show and all but one had positive things to say about the show itself. Attendance was encouraging with around 10,000 paying \$12- and \$15 a seat for the 4th edition of War Games. running down the show:

It opened with Terry Taylor and the Barbarian substituting for the noshowing Canadian Kodiaks to take on Ron Simmons and Sting. It went to a ten minute draw at the 11:06 mark. The last seven minutes were good and basically saw Sting sending Taylor flying all over the ring. The match ended in a draw and was graded a B- (This report is a live report by SEAN GRANDE).

Next up was Larry Zbyszko taking on Kevin Sullivan. This was a short brawl that went 4:01 and saw Zbyszko selling his butt off. It was also graded a B- which is something of note since this was so short.

In the worst match of the night, Jimmy Valiant, Buggy McGraw and the Mighty Wilbur defeated the Warlord, Ivan Koloff and Black Bart. The match went 9:57. Interesting that Buggy blew up during his warm up (running back and forth against the ropes during the intros about a dozen times). Paul Jones was at ringside, but did absolutely nothing. The end came with all six in the ring at once and Wilbur splashing Bart. It was the best it could be and was given a merciful C-.

Then came Jim Garvin and Michael Hayes pinning the Jive Tones in 7:05. Hayes was particularly impressive in what was a pretty standard script. It was a give and take match with the old tag when the ref can't see it routine. Finally, came the hot tag and the end saw all four in the ring. The heels threw Hayes out of the ring and began double teaming Garvin. Hayes mounted the ropes and came off with a flying body press for the pin. Grade B.

Then in a Non-mention of a title match, Steve Williams downed Rick Steiner in 10:24. Steiner took some incredible bumps and Steve did a move where he leapt over the top rope, landed on the apron and in one move executed a flying body press on Steiner outside the ring. There was little heat from the intros until the finish. They worked a lot of arm-bars which brought a few "boring" chants, but the match still gets a B-.

The Shepherders then beat the Lightning Express in 12:04. This is what Sean termed a quality tag team match. Johnny Ace was in the Sheeps' corner as Butch Miller is now back wrestling. Through most of the match, they pounded on Armstrong with Tim Horner finally getting the hot tag. The end came with all four in the ring. With the ref busy putting Miller out of the ring, Horner rolled Luke Williams up. Johnny Ace came in with the flag pole, clotheslines Horner and the momentum carries them over so that Luke gets the pin. Grade of a B.

The next match saw Nikita pin Eddie Gilbert in 6:46 of a B+ match. Gilbert was brilliant in this brawl that saw the match spill into the other ring (it was a WarGames card, so there were two rings side by side). Missy was not at ringside but Sean says the match was so good, that he forgot that she wasn't there (but only for a couple of minutes). Nikita played Superman and refused to sell a piledriver at one point. The end came with Eddie swinging at Nikita with a foreign object, Nikita ducking it and catching him with the sickel. The crowd popped at the beginning of this match and the heat sustained through the rest of the night.

In the next bout, Flair and Luger beat the Road Warriors by DQ. Flair and Luger were selling everything, and the Road Warriors sold as much as they could in this type of situation.

The end came with the ref putting Animal out of the ring and JJ tossing his shoe to Flair. Flair clobbers Hawk with it, but the ref saw it and issued the DQ to Flair and Luger (i got the end wrong on the last page), Sean rated this match an A- and this is only the third A he's given out in two years.

The main event was War Games IV. Order of entry was as follows: Arn vs Windham to start things out, then Eaton, Morton, Tully, Rhodes, Bubba, Garvin, Lane, and Gibson. They already had the cage put together and hung above the ring. They lowered it and strapped it to the ring posts. Arn bladed within the first three minutes as Barry ran his head into each section of the cage. Part of what made this match so good was the guys outside the ring really got into the match with their facial expressions, body language, etc. They kept asking how much time was left so they could get in and rescue whoever. The tide of the match was such that the heels had the advantage whenever they had more guys in the ring and the babyfaces had the advantage whenever the odds were even. Best move went to Bobby Eaton when he caught Morton coming off the ropes in what looked like would be a spinebuster. Instead, he rammed Morton's head against the top of the cage (it was very low). Eaton bladed early and was a bloody mess by the end (remember Don Kernodle after the first Starrcade?). Windham and Morton were both down when Dusty came in and all three heels went after him at once. He met them all with the bionic elbow. Bubba brought the racquet in with him and eventually, everyone got to use it. Dusty bled pretty bad too. Just 1:29 after Gibson came in, Dusty put the figure four on Eaton and Bobby submitted. The match went a total of 20:29 and got a solid A. The only guys who didn't bleed were Ron Garvin, Bubba, and Stan Lane.

Attendance was in the 11,000 range which must have made Mr. Crockett VERY happy. The advance gate was over \$100,000. The finals for the Bunkhouse Stampede were announced for 1/24 and tickets went on sale during intermission. When considering the location of the Nassau Coliseum, this was a fantastic turnout. Unless you have a car, this is very difficult to get to. There is no mass transit that goes directly here from Manhattan (you have to ride a train then transfer to a bus). It's a good hour from Manhattan, so Crockett may not want to promote there on a regular basis as only a big show like this will the people be willing to go out of their way to see. Sean is sure that they would have sold out either the Meadowlands or MSG.

Now on to Starrcade. For those of you who watched the TBS show this weekend, you already know the results. The following is my impressions on the show as a whole (I received my tape Express mail Sunday afternoon).

STING/GARVIN/HAYES VS GILBERT/STEINER/ZBYSZKO...The match started off very fast with quite a few high spots with Sting and Steiner providing the action. Sting did an over the top rope leap outside the ring into Steiner that the cameras missed. The middle of the match slowed down until the last five minutes which got decent again. The ref had to hold back a little to make sure he didn't count three accidentally though as the match ended in a draw. I gave it a C, but it was a good opener.

STEVE WILLIAMS VS BARRY WINDHAM...It started off good and fast with the high spot culminating with Doc pressing Barry over-head three or four times. The important part of the match came when Doc tried a leapfrog over Barry, but Barry's head caught him in the groin. Barry stopped the ref's count until he made sure Doc would be able to continue in the match. Just a few moments later, Barry went for a flying bodypress, Doc ducked and Windham did his now famous over the top rope bump, crashing into a table



outside. As soon as he climbed back in the ring (still hurt) Doc hit him with an Oklahoma side roll and cradled him for the win. Fans were about 50-50 in the decision. This will probably result in Williams eventual turn to heel. More on this later. I gave the match a B...it was short, but it is going to eventually "tell a story".

ROCK & ROLL EXPRESS VS MIDNIGHT EXPRESS ON A SCAFFOLD... Well, it was better than last year's scaffold match. Ricky and Bubba got into it before the match with Bubba giving Ricky the Bubba slam before the match. This left a 2 on 1 situation up on the scaffold. It was really hard to compare this with last year's as last year they did a lot of hanging. This year's near falls were done standing up and kind of teetering on the edge. Stan Lane was the first to fall and Eaton less than a minute later. He was hanging underneath with Gibson kicking him and Morton (who had brought the racquet up) hitting him with it. After Eaton fell, Cornette ordered Bubba up and he and Morton had a staredown. Finally, Morton pulled the old "Look over there!" routine, and when Bubba did, Morton poked him below the belt, then took off. He walked out of the ring wearing Bubba's coat and hat. I guess it was alright if you like this kind of match but I gave it a C+.

NIKITA VS TAYLOR FOR THE TV UNIFIED TITLE...Nikita won it, what a surprise. I take back everything I said about Nikita being the most improved wrestler of the year. This match was dreadful. Nikita's best move was sticking out his tongue. The end saw Gilbert climb up on the ring apron and Nikita go after him. Taylor charged from behind and ran into Gilbert as Nikita moved. Nikita then caught him with the sickel when he got up and got the pin. Nikita wouldn't sell a darn thing and it didn't look like Taylor was real excited about having to lose his belt. I gave it a D- and I think that is generous.

TULLY/ARN VS ROAD WARRIORS...A good brawl. the end was good, but very dangerous to use in Chicago. Hawk hurt his knee and finally got the hot tag. Animal was coming off the ropes when Tully tripped him from the outside. Hawk chased Tully around the outside and then through the ring while Animal and Arn still are going at it. Tully runs into the ref and He takes a bump. Arn charges Animal who ducks and flips him over the top rope. With the second ref on his way in, Hawk and Animal give Tully a double clothesline (which disposes of him) and then hit Arn with their off the top rope clothesline. The second ref counts the pinfall, and the belts are awarded to the Warriors IN CHICAGO. But Tommy Long comes to to tell the second ref that he had DQ'd the Warriors for throwing Arn over the top rope. The decision is reversed and I thought that the NWA was going to lose their best referee. Dumb thing to do in Chicago, but they did and at least the Roadies got to go back to the dressing rooms with the belts. I enjoyed the match, but then, I'm a road Warrior fan. I gave it a B+, which is probably just a tad bit high.

DUSTY RHODES VS LEXX WGER (this damn typewriter makes at least two xx's every time I press it!!!). I found it boring for the most part although, I did like the ending. The match had Dusty trying to put the Weaverlock on Lexxxx (see?) and Lexxx trying for the backbreaker. The end came when Dusty got the sleeper on him in the middle of the ring. JJ hit Johnny Weaver (who was holding the key to the cage) with a chair and got the key. He couldn't figure out how to use it and the ref came over to make him stop unlatching the door. Lex (how bout that) found some extra strength and charged the corner where the ref was

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standing for yet another ref bump. JJ then threw a chair over the top of the cage. Luger went to pick it up, but Dusty caught him and gave him a very poor DDT on the chair. The ref rolled over and counted three. No Midnight Rider, we're stuck with Dusty (more later...there may yet be a way out). I gave the match a C- mainly for the ending but certainly not for the DDT that Dusty did.

RIC FLAIR vs RON GARVIN...Somehow, this match seemed to lack the intensity of previous encounters. I can't put my finger on why though. It was of course a slap fest (If I have time to count between now and the deadline, the number will be by my Incredibly Stupid Statistic Department this time). There were several  $2\frac{1}{2}$  counts on both sides. They started to do the same ending as Detroit (which was and is pretty silly cos the marks may have smelled something fishy). Only this time when Garvin came off the top rope with the sunset flip, Flair managed to keep his balance and grab the ropes. The ref counted two on Garvin then noticed Ric holding the ropes. He knocked Ric's hands away and Garvin hooked his arms with his legs. Ric kicked out at the two count. Ron managed to get his punch in, but again Flair kicked out. Flair's winning move was sort of a hot shot, but instead of dumping Garvin on the top rope, he rammed his head into one of the support poles for the cage. The pin followed. I enjoyed it enough to give it a B, but still, it did seem to lack the intensity.

As for how Starrcade did, I don't know yet and won't until later on in the week. I do know they cancelled a few spots for closed circuit due to low ticket advances. I know also that in New York, they did well. Chicago sold out the Pavillion at least two weeks in advance and at least one of the closed circuit locations did very well. They are going to broadcast Starrcade on 12/8 to some selected Pay Per View outlets, but after showing Flair-Garvin and Dusty-Luger on TBS this weekend, I doubt that unless some people are already signed up for it that showing those matches will kill any kind of good response from there. All in all, I thought the past Starrcades were better than this one even though this was a good show too. Save the Jumping Bomb Angels, I thought they out performed the WWF.

Meanwhile the next few weeks will be angle city and some of what you can expect will be Dusty announcing his retirement maybe legit, sometime in 1988. I would like to see him in a farewell match against Dick Murdoch, but you never know.

Kevin Sullivan will be turned back heel and become more-less a manager. He'll be handling Rick Steiner, Mike Rotundo (who'll be turning shortly) and probably Doc, who is already doing almost heel interviews. I hope that breathes some new life into Doc cos since Gordy and Ted aren't around to work with, he don't look so good.

And Ric Flair is promising to be even more Obnoxious and more overbearing than before and he's telling us we better learn to like it. Perhaps if Dusty decides to retire, that will make Flair a babyface. Then again, they might turn Luger. Translating Dusty's post match interview, what he said is, "Lex had to do a job tonight, but I promised him this was his last one and that I'd make him better than Hogan." At least, that's the way I heard it.

LETTERS, WE GET LETTERS...

HELP NEEDED

I'm having a tough time up here on the North Pole trying to decide just what to bring the wrestlers for Christmas, so i've decided to enlist the aid of all the Wrestling Forum readers. If you can think of something especially clever for me to leave under a certain wrestler's tree this christmas (for example, 400 pounds of humility for Dusty Rhodes to offset his ego) send your suggestions to Jon at Wrestling Forum and perhaps next issue he'll publish your suggestions to help me out. Thanks a lot, ho ho ho, and all that good stuff.

-KRIS KRINGLE-

-North Pole-

HOW TO DEAL WITH A SMART FAN, PART I

Ray Whebbe's article last issue got me to thinking. Yes, it's true, the bulletins do in fact help promotions to keep a handle on what the other guys are doing, but being a "smart fan" does carry with it some responsibility. Too often, some twelve year old kid who reads your newsletter (and I know you can't control who reads) will become half smart. He knows the boys' real names and he shouts them at us when we enter the ring. Sure, it shocks us, especially coming from a kid, but still, I reckon this to a kid shouting out the solutions to a magician's tricks (something you, Jon, can well relate to). What he's doing is trying to show how much he knows when in our eyes, he's showing how irresponsible he is with very privileged knowledge. I am one of the wrestlers who will in fact talk with a smart fan before or after the matches, providing there are no marks around. But if I see someone approach who has shown his ignorance during the matches by calling my name or by calling high spots, you can bet I'm going to stay in character and it'll be a cold day in Hell before he gets to talk with me. Smarts have a responsibility in holding to themselves what they know, especially in the presence of marks. One of these times, that little smart ass sitting there in the first row is going to end up with a lap full of wrestler...maybe then he'll think he's smart.

-NAME WITHHELD-

by request

EDITOR: I HAD TO CHOP UP THIS LETTER A BIT (IT RAN THREE PAGES) BUT I THINK MOST OF YOU GOT THE IDEA. FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

A FEW QUESTIONS

Can you answer these questions? If you can't maybe some of your readers can. 1) How did Dusty Rhodes get his "political status" with Crockett/ Is he holding something over Crockett's head? 2) Who had that position before him? 3) Who would have it if he were severely injured or met with an accident like Terry Taylor or the New Breed? 4) Are there other wrestlers or people begging Crockett for that position?

-MIKE POCHUSKI-

-Mohnton, PA-

EDITOR: I'M NOT SURE HOW DUSTY GOT HIS POWER, BUT HE'S BEEN ABLE TO KEEP HIS JOB ON THE BASIS OF PAST SUCCESSES. THE BOOKER BEFORE DUSTY WAS DORY FUNK JR. WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIRST EVER STARRCADE (THANKS DAVE!). DUSTY WOULD HAVE TO BE TOTALLY INCAPACITATED (AS IN COMATOSE OR DEAD) NOT TO RUN THE SHOW AS BOOKING CAN BE DONE FROM A HOSPITAL BED. IF THAT WERE TO HAPPEN, MY GUESS IS THAT ONE OF DUSTY'S CLOSE BUDDIES (JJ OR MAYBE FLAIR) WOULD TAKE OVER ON A TEMPORARY BASIS. IT'S MY GUESS THAT NOT MANY WRESTLERS ARE STANDING IN LINE FOR DUSTY'S JOB, JUST BECAUSE BEING THE BOOKER IS A VERY STRESSFUL JOB. IT PUTS YOU RIGHT IN THE FIRING LINE AND ONE SMALL MISTAKE CAN COST YOU A BUNDLE AT THE BOX OFFICE. JUST BECAUSE ONE IS A BRILLIANT WRESTLER OR INTERVIEW (LIKE FLAIR) DOES

NOT MAKE HIM A GOOD BOOKER AUTOMATICALLY.

I'M MOST SICK OF...

having to read about the personal problems of the editor of the Wrestling Forum. Why does the editor have to spend so much time informing us of his job search, his copier, his family? Doesn't he realize that the readers subscribed to the Forum to obtain wrestling information and opinions, not a soap opera of his life? Meltzer tells us nothing about himself which is the way it should be. Doesn't he realize that the editor makes a laughingstock out of himself with his silly diatribes among Forum readers when they correspond or get together with one another? Doesn't he realize that he lost several readers and will probably lose more as time goes on?

-JOHN LANIGAN-

-Pittsburgh, PA-

EDITOR: May I respectfully request that you just skip over my silly attempts to become personable and a non-clone of Meltzer?

....TV squash matches followed by hype about upcoming big events that I can't see because we don't have pay per view and there's no closed circuit locations close to here either.

-DAVE SHEPHERD-

-New Salem, IL-

....the newsstand magazines! They lie as much as the promoters do, only because it's in print, marks are led to believe it. Why, I'd bet that even PWI's year end poll is as fixxed as the outcome of the matches. The winners depend on whoever they need to kiss up to that particular month.

-ERIC HOYME-

-Indianapolis-

EDITOR: I've defended the magazines before and I'll do it again. They do serve a purpose. If you don't like what you read there, just don't buy them. I buy two each month...PWI (because it's always interesting and Craig Peter's column are sometimes almost a "shoot", and Wrestling Eye, because they carry a plug for this bulletin and it's always interesting to see what kind of BS they're printing.

and finally...

HOW COME MELTZER NEVER GETS LETTERS LIKE THIS...

You know, I've always wondered why wrestlers like Adrian Adonis and Buddy Rose are so FAT! Well, after reading your bulletin, I know. In your results section, you're always talking about wrestlers going to the DQ! If I went to the DQ every night like these guys, I'd be fat too! Sometimes they go to a "Double DQ". Does that mean they have two banana splits? Somebody ought to tell them that all that DQ ice cream is fattening. That's all for now, I'll write again soon.

-EMILY LATRELLA-

-New York-

EDITOR: I'm not sure whether that's a threat or a promise...

## MEMPHIS

Things are a little quiet here as Jerry Lawler has to rethink some of his latest angles. It seems one has backfired, so to speak. During an interview segment, newly turned heel Steve Keirn came out for his interview. Now remember what had turned Steve: he was holding an opponent when tag team partner Jerry Lawler went to throw a fireball. The opponent ducked, and Steve got hit with the fire. Steve then went after Jerry. Well, on the interview, all Steve did was ask the studio audience if they thought he was wrong. He was expecting a chorus of boos, but instead, the crowd overwhelmingly agreed with him. Steve was visibly surprised, and some fast thinking from the dressing room was the only thing to save the day... Jeff Jarrett came out and told Steve that the fireball thing was just an accident and that he and Lawler should make up. JJ Funk then attacked Jeff and when Lawler came out to make the save, Keirn went after him and he and JJ left the babyfaces laying. Lawler may have to rethink this feud and turn himself heel. Think about it. Let's say You get hit with a fireball. Do you pass it off as an accident or do you seek revenge?

Newcomers since we last met include Austin Idol who has returned as a babyface. This makes sense as it all since his feud with Lawler last summer was the hottest thing in wrestling. They didn't even work an angle to make him a face... he just began teaming with Bill Dundee in his feud with Hector Guerrero and Manny Fernandez. Speaking of Manny, did you catch his comment on Crockett? He referred to them as a bunch of mules being led by a jackass. Guess he doesn't plan on being a heel himself.

Also in is Poljo managed by a new manager called Nate the rat. Nate looks like a chubby bill Alphonso (Florida ref) and dresses like a used car salesman. He's very green as a manager and does little to heat up the crowds.

The Midnight Rockers look and act bored. The fans are reacting accordingly.

## YEAR END AWARDS 1987

The response so far to our end of the year survey has been very good. I don't see any problem in annihilating last year's number of ballots cast (44); as we're close to that already. This issue we're going to look at staff members Sean Grande and Jeff Siegel's picks in our twenty nine categories.

Let's get the rules for voting out of the way first. 1) Everyone reading this bulletin is eligible to vote. You do not have to be a subscriber to vote. 2) Balloting is open from now until DECEMBER 30, 1987. Votes received after that date will not be counted. 3) Select three choices in each category. If you can't come up with three, choose two. Or even one. 4) First place votes will get three points. Second place votes get 2 points and third place votes get one point. The winner will be determined by the total number of points received. 5) Anyone who votes will receive a \$2.00 discount on their copy of the yearbook which will be published in late January. You must vote prior to 12-30-87 in order to receive the discount on the yearbook.

You are welcome to make comments along with your ballots as to why you made a particular choice. Selected comments will appear in the yearbook. If you would like to keep your comments between you and me, just let me know. If you don't mind your comments being shared with our readers but you want your name withheld, we can take care of that too.

When voting, vote by category title AND number. Here are Jeff and Sean's choices:

1. **WRESTLER OF THE YEAR:** What we are looking for here is what wrestler had the biggest impact on the sport. Sean's picks are 1-Ricki Choshu...2-Ric Flair...3-Curt Hennig. Jeff's choices are 1-Ric Flair...2-Curt Hennig...3-Randy Savage.
2. **ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:** Anyone who started with a major promotion within the last 15 months is eligible. Jeff had only one pick in this category and that was Shane Douglas. Sean chose 1-Brian Pillman (from Calgary), 2-Shane Douglas, and Paul E. Dangerously was number 3.
3. **PROMOTION OF THE YEAR:** Which promotion did the best job overall this past year? Sean picked New Japan 1st, the WWF 2nd, and NWA 3rd. Jeff had the WWF as his top choice followed by Memphis then Eddie Sharkey's Pro Wrestling America.
4. **WORST PROMOTION:** And which one did the worst. Jeff and Sean agreed that World Class was the worst, followed by the AWA. Jeff didn't make a third place selection, but Sean listed Central States for his.
5. **TAG TEAM OF THE YEAR:** What tag team impressed you the most? Again our two staff members agreed on the top spot as they chose Bobby Eaton/Stam Lane. Jeff went on to choose Strike Force 2nd and Pat Tanaka/Paul Diamond 3rd. Sean rounded out his selections with Akira Maeda/Nobuhiko Takada (and I told you that typing too many Japanese names would break my typewriter!) and in 3rd, Strike Force.
- PLEASE NOTE: If you are voting for Midnight Express, note whether it's Lane/Eaton, Eaton/Condrey, or Condrey/Rose. Votes for just "Midnight Express" will be credited to Eaton/Lane.
6. **MOST OVERRATED:** This category and the next are probably the two most confusing. Overrated by who? Smart fans? Marks? The press (which is directed at marks). I cast my votes for a combination of both. Sean went strictly overrated by smart fans and Jeff went with a combination. Sean: 1-Steve Williams 2- Bruiser Brody, and 3-Bobby Eaton. Jeff: 1-Honky Tonk, 2-Ken Patera, and 3-
7. **MOST UNDERRATED:** Sean: 1-Tito Santana, 2-Pat Tanaka, and he

couldn't decide on third place so he named both Michael Hayes and Honky Tonk Man. Jeff: 1-Curt Hennig, 2-Sting, 3-Sherri Martel.

8. MATCH OF THE YEAR: Jeff: 1-Steamboat-Savage from Wrestlemania III, 2-Flair vs Windham that was taped in Fayetteville in January and shown on TBS. He did not have a third place match. Sean: 1-Flair vs Windham, 2-Steamboat vs Savage, and 3-War Games IV from the Long Island show last week.

9. ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR: This is for play by play announcers only. Sean went with Lance Russell 1st, Jim Ross 2nd, and Tony Shivone 3rd. Jeff liked Tony best followed by Jim 2nd (no third).

10. COLOR COMMENTATOR OF THE YEAR: Both chose Jesse Ventura to top their lists. Jeff listed Magnum TA as his second choice while Sean rounded out his list with Michael Hayes followed by Nick Bockwinkel.

11. JOBBER OF THE YEAR: Here's a salute to the guys who lay down on the mat week after week on TV or on the undercard for the stars. Some are very talented and this is our chance to honor them. Sean picked Brady Boone 1st, Jose Estrada 2nd and Steve Lombardi 3rd. Jeff agreed with Brady Boone on top followed by Barry Horowitz and Mike Jackson.

12. BEST ANGLE/FEUD OF THE YEAR: As an explanation, we combined what seemed like two separate categories into one because most angles lead to a feud. Next year we may separate them but for this year, Jeff went with Honky Tonk-Savage, War Games, and Islanders-Strike Force for his top three choices and Sean picked Andre-Hogan 1st (citing that it did manage to draw 93,000 fans), followed by the Lawler-Rich/Idol frays in Memphis and third went to Saito-Inoki from Japan.

13. DUMBEST ANGLE/FEUD of the YEAR: Jeff: 1-Flair and the mannequin, 2-Dusty vs Lex, 3-Adrian Adonis vs Tommy Rich. Sean: 1-the whole concept of the Dream date (this is not the same as the Flair mannequin thing, but close), 2-the Oriental tool (as used by Brian Adams to "explain" why Kevin Von Erich collapsed in the ring, and 3-Outback Jack and anything that has to do with him.

14. WORST WRESTLER OF THE YEAR: I'd almost bet we could do a top 40 of this category. Sean: 1-Giant Baba, 2-BB Brown, 3-George Steele. Jeff: 1-Junkyard Dog, 2-Outback Jack, 3-Billy Graham.

15. BEST BABYFACE: The best "good-guy" (in terms of playing that role) is agreed upon by both with their votes going to Hulk Hogan. Jeff went on to choose Randy Savage 2nd with Jerry Lawler 3rd. Sean picked Ricki Choshu 2nd with Jimmy Garvin at somewhat of a surprise third.

16. BEST HEEL: Okay, so who plays the villain role the best? Sean and Jeff both agree that Honky Tonk Man takes the top spot and that he should be followed by Terry Taylor. They differ on third place votes though with Jeff going with Manny Fernandez and Sean choosing Ted DiBiase.

17. MANAGER OF THE YEAR: Some wrestlers just can't get over by themselves and they need the help of a manager. The question is then, who is the most enjoyable or who does the best job?

- Both agree on Jim Cornette for a top pick with Sean following up with Paul Dangerously in second place and Bobby Heenan third. Jeff went with James J Dillon second and no 3rd.
18. DIPSTICK OF THE YEAR: This is pretty much self-explanatory. Sean insists that this be called the Fritz Von-Erich Memorial Dipstick of the Year Award so I guess that tells you his choice. Jeff picked Dusty in his top spot, followed by Fritz and Verne bringing up the rear (so to speak).
19. BEST TV SHOW: Which of the many TV shows do you enjoy the most? Sean thought New Japan was the best with 2nd place going to WWF Superstars and Memphis in 3rd. Jeff had Saturday Night's Main Event in 1st, Memphis 2nd and WWF Superstars in 3rd.
20. MOST IMPROVED: This is most improved over the last twelve months. Jeff lists Sting, Tito Santana, and Bubba Rogers in that order and Sean counters with Curt Hennig, Kazuo Yamazaki, Eddie Gilbert, also in that finishing order.
21. BEST FINISHING MANEUVER: What finishing maneuver do you just love to see. Please include a name of a wrestler to go along with your choice. Sean's favorites are: 1-Arn Anderson's spine buster (because he doesn't need any help to do it). 2-Diamond and Tanaka's slingshot DDT, and 3-Strike Force's "whip your opponent into the ropes while Tito rebounds off the opposite ropes and catches him with a flying forearm" maneuver. Jeff likes New Breed's top rope crotch in the face best, followed by the Road Warriors' clothesline off the ropes and Arn's gourdbuster.
22. WORST FINISHING MANEUVER: this is the one that either looks extremely bad or ineffective. Jeff picks Dusty's found weaverlock as his 1st choice with Hogan's leg bomb second while Sean lists the leg bomb 1st with Ron Garvin's hands of stone punch second and the Greg Gange sleeper in the third spot.
23. BEST INTERVIEW: Who does the best job of being interviewed...Sean goes with Flair as the best with Cornette in 2nd and Paul E Dangerously 3rd. Jeff is slightly different with Cornette topping his list, Flair second and Eddie Gilbert in third.
24. MOST DISGUSTING EVENT: Your stomach turned when you saw (or heard) about it, or you consider it in extremely BAD taste. Jeff was disgusted by the way Fritz handled the death of his son Mike more than anything else. Second for him was the babyface buildup of Patera after his stint in prison. Third was just simply Billy Graham wrestling. Sean agreed with Jeff's top choice, but 2nd went to Flair and the mannequin and the match where the heels pulled out CW Styles' glass eye and rolled it around the ring finished up Sean's list.
25. BEST REFEREE: Quite a few of you have added to your votes the words "Who Cares?". Well, the referee is important in that he shouldn't take away from the action unless he needs to take a bump or is otherwise important in the ending (other than just being there to count three). A bad referee can louse up the whole end of a match (not to mention the middle and beginning. Jeff and Sean agree with their first two choices listing Tommy Young as the Best with Dave Hebner 2nd. Jeff didn't have a 3rd place vote but Sean went with Dick Kroll in that spot.
26. BEST NEWSSTAND MAGAZINE: I realize that lots of you don't



even pick them up, so if you don't, just don't vote in this category. Both guys pick Pro Wrestling Illustrated as the number one choice. That's all Jeff listed but Sean went on to name Wrestling 87 2nd and the WWF Magazine (better known as Steve Taylor Magazine) third.

27. BIGGEST SHOCK OF THE YEAR: What event shocked you the most. Both our columnists agreed that Mike Von Erich's suicide was the biggest shock. Jeff chose Kerry Von Erich's return to the ring for his 2nd spot with the sale of the UWF to Crockett 3rd. Sean's 2nd choice was Garvin winning the NWA title and Honky Tonk's title win in third.

28. WORST ANNOUNCER: You know, the guy who makes you want to turn down the sound...Sean and Jeff agree on David Crockett as the very worst followed by David McLaine and Lord Al Hayes for Sean and Jeff rounds out his list with Larry Nelson and Gorilla Monsoon.

We also asked a survey question. You are to fill in the blank. "I am most sick of \_\_\_\_\_". This is not an award, merely a question for us to get a little feedback on. We will be listing some of the better answers in the yearbook.

Nexxt issue, I'll be listing staff member Ed Garea's picks along with some of the front runners for the 28 categories. Just to simplify things, here again are the 28 categories to cast your votes in:

1. WRESTLER OF THE YEAR
  2. ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
  3. PROMOTION OF THE YEAR
  4. WORST PROMOTION OF THE YEAR
  5. TAG TEAM OF THE YEAR
  6. MOST OVERRATED WRESTLER
  7. MOST UNDERRATED WRESTLER
  8. MATCH OF THE YEAR
  9. ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR
  10. COLOR COMMENTATOR OF THE YEAR
  11. JOBBER OF THE YEAR
  12. BEST ANGLE OR FEUD
  13. WORST ANGLE OR FEUD
  14. WORST WRESTLER OF THE YEAR
  15. BEST BABYFACE WRESTLER
  16. BEST HEEL WRESTLER
  17. MANAGER OF THE YEAR
  18. DIPSTICK OF THE YEAR
  19. BEST TV SHOW
  20. MOST IMPROVED WRESTLER IN 1987
  21. BEST FINISHING HOLD OR MANEUVER
  22. WORST FINISHING HOLD OR MANEUVER
  23. BEST INTERVIEW
  24. MOST DISGUSTING EVENT OF 1987
  25. BEST REFEREE
  26. BEST NEWSSTAND MAGAZINE
  27. BIGGEST SHOCK OF 1987
  28. WORST ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR
- "I'M MOST SICK OF \_\_\_\_\_"

## DIPSTICK OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER 1987

Honest. I was all set to award myself the prestigious Dipstick of the month award for all the reasons mentioned last issue, however not even the mistakes and goof ups I made could compare with this month's winner. Before making the presentation, let's take a look at some of the honorable mentions...

First of all, there's Dusty Rhodes. Starrcade turned out to be very predicatable complete with a screw job ending in the Road Warriors' match. He blew the chance to work some new angles for the upcoming months and instead chose just to finish up most of the ones he had started.

There's the fan who ran in the ring at the Syracuse taping prior to the Hogan-OMG match and physically attacked Gang. He managed to pull a couple of double leg takedowns on OMG before the security guards escorted him off to a free room and board for the night.

Let's not forget Verne for handing sonnie boy Greg the AWA title. If the decision ends up being reversed, you can bet you bottom dollar that he won't escape the dipstick next month.

The winner has to go though, to the business men who are fronting the money for the VonErich Over America tour. Last issue, when Jeff introduced me to that name, I thought it was just something cute that he had dreamed up to call this disaster waiting to happen. Not so. Von Erichs over America is in fact the official name of the tour coined by the promotion. That alone qualifies it for the award. But taking it one step further, the group of business men supporting the tour have made a really big deal with Kevin and Kerry promoting an anti-drug campaign. I've got to be careful not to liable myself here, but something tells me that these business men might be prime candidates as buyers for the Brooklyn Bridge. Therefore, the Dipstick of the Month award is hereby presented to the group of business men.

## CLASS ACT OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER 1987

Again, we had to really search to find even some nominations for the award this time. We managed to come up with two which made picking the eventual winner a little easier.

Our runner up this time goes to the WWF wrestlers in the Hogan-Andre team battle at the survivor Series. Most involved are known more for their laziness rather than their work so it was a pleasant surprise to see people like Don Muraco and Butch Reed actually going beyond their normal work rate to attempt to give the fans more. They share the runner up spot with the NWA guys who put on their second good show in as many nights. Especially notable are the NWA wrestlers as they could have packed it all in, knowing that their audience was nothing in comparison to Titan's but still continuing to work for what audience they had.

Our winner this month is a combination effort between Creation Conventions and George Napalitano of the Starlog Press. Together they have put together a traveling national convention for wrestling fans. Andy Dragos alerted us to the first in New York City with such stars as Killer Kowalski, Lou Tetz, Bruno Sammartino, and Ivan Putski appearing. The traveling convention has gone most recently to Washington DC and Los Angeles and will also appear in Philadelphia January 16-17. The conventions let the fans in each of those cities talk with wrestlers and get involved with trivia contests, tapes, and a merchandise mart. Since they are independent of any promotion, they come off as being neutral, as they should. Andy reports he had a great time; I only wish they were coming to this area as I would like to see for myself how the convention comes off.

## WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

## THE SURVIVOR SERIES

Just a quick explanation of how we're going to do this...I'll list each match by falls with a grade for each fall, followed by a composite grade and then any notes I made. I did end up getting this on pay per view (the local cable company just got wired for it this past Monday), and I watched it twice just to make sure I didn't miss anything important.

The Series opened with Randy Savage's team going against Honky Tonk's team. The first fall ended with Harley Race and Jim Duggan going to a double count out, eliminating both wrestlers. Race took a good bump, but that was about the only thing remarkable for the opening round. I gave this a D+. The second fall saw Beefcake pinning Ron Bass. Again nothing remarkable, but the action did pick up enough to get a C rating.

The third fall featured a lot of rest holds with Beefcake working the entire fall for the babyface team and finally being eliminated after a shake rattle and roll by HTM. I was awake long enough to grade this fall a D. The fourth fall had Danny Davis in the ring most of the time and he took a beating. I love the way Davis lets himself get tossed around the ring like a rag doll. He fell victim to Jake's DDT and got this fall a C+.

This left Hercules and HTM vs Jake, Rick Steamboat, and Randy. In sort of a surprise to me, Hercules was eliminated by a Randy Savage elbow off the top rope leaving it three on one against Honky Tonk. For the record, the Hercules elimination was the best work of the match earning a solid B. Honky Tonk took a beating from the three babyfaces for just a very short time before taking a hike to the dressing room. He was counted out of course and the victory went to Savage's team. While it lasted, this fall was a B-.

Although the ending sounds like a rip off, it serves a purpose. It gives Titan three challengers for the IC title without HTM actually having to do a job, and without any of the three challengers looking bad either. Walking out also will help to get HTM over as a heel more with those who don't already hate him. Unfortunately, this might work in reverse as well. Fans might not turn out to see him because he might decide to take a stroll at their next live card. It was an okay ending to an okay match with overall, I gave a C.

The next series on the card was the women's match. It opened with Velvet McIntyre pinning Donna Christenello. Not too bad, I gave it a B-. Next up, Rockin' Robin (Smith...Jake's and Sam Houston's sister) pinned Dawn Marie to give the babyfaces a 5 on 3 advantage. Again, I was not unimpressed, even for a couple of rookies. I gave the fall another B-. Sherri Martel then pinned Robin. We got to see the Jumping Bomb Angels in action here and that earned this fall a B. Next, Judy Martin eliminated Moolah in another B fall. Say what you want about Moolah, but how many 62 year olds do you know who can still throw a dropkick? Velvet then upset Sherri with a pin which saw some excellent work on both sides. This fall got an A all the way. We then saw LeLani Kai (one of the Glamour Girls) pin Velvet after Velvet was attempting one of her "riding on the shoulders" flips. My mouth dropped and whenever that happens, it gets at least an A. This left the Jumping Bomb Angels against the Glamour Girls. LeLani was pinned first by JBA Isuki (B+) and that was followed by the other Angel pinning Judy Martin (A). During the last fall, Isuki dropkicked Jimmy Hart and he took one of the best bumps off the ring apron I've ever seen him do. I actually enjoyed the match, and I'm not that fond of women's wrestling. This match didn't look as choreographed as most women's matches and overall, I gave it a B+. I don't think Jesse or Gorilla either one learned the other Angel's name; I never heard them mention it.

*Wrestling*

The tag team match was very confusing and one fan who phoned in a live report said the first twenty minutes or so was impossible to see from ringside. There were just too many wrestlers hanging around on the ring apron. The first fall went quick though. Santana hit Zhukov with a flying forearm almost when the match began to capture the first fall and eliminate the Bolshiveks. It's hard to grade a fall this short, but I'll give it a C-. Kind of funny that the first team to go is one that they are trying to push. The teams were evened up after the second fall as Axe pinned Jacques Rougeau to eliminate the brothers. There was a bunch of action here with 14 of the 18 remaining wrestlers seeing action. Unfortunately, it was too hard to follow and that's what earned it such a low grade as a D+. Jacques, though, deserves some credit with some nice moves including a roll over an attempted backdrop. Demolition was the next team to go and the only team and/or wrestler who was eliminated on the night via DQ. This happened as Smash had Dynamite Kid in the heel corner and everyone was working him over. Smash pushed the ref out of the way to earn the DQ and a grade of a C-. Santana was the next to go being pinned by Jim Neidhart as Jim was able to reverse a pinning combination. Not bad though somewhat short; I gave it a B-. The next fall had the heels working over Jim Powers most of the way then finally pinning Dynamite Kid (Haku got the honors). The fall ranked about a C- on my scale. Valentine was the next to go after a Roma powerslam. Again, Powers and Roma were the only babyfaces in the ring and they acted almost like supermen, making sure that they kicked out at the two count every time a pin was attempted. The powerslam was nice, but the rest was just okay. Give it a C.

This left the Islanders and the Hart Foundation remaining on one team with Powers and Roma and the Killer Bees on the other. The next fall saw lots of action with everyone but Powers seeing action. The end came with Jim Brunzell fixing to bodyslam Bret Hart. Tama came in while the ref was busy trying to clear everyone else out of the ring and dropkicked Bret back, making him fall on top of Jim. The momentum, however carried the two over with Jim ending up on top and pinning Bret. Tama was then pinned to end the match in an ending that we've seen quite a few times. Jim Brunzell had sunset flipped him but he was managing to stand and try to get to the ropes. The ref was again distracted while Blair (with a mask on) dove in over the top rope to complete the sunset flip and gain the pin. Not bad here either, but we've seen it so much from the Bees that it only got another C. Overall, it was enjoyable, though somewhat confusing with 20 guys all in or on the ring at once. The match went just about 45 minutes total and I gave it a B- overall.

The question as to where Ted DiBiase was was sort of answered next with a clip of him riding in his limo showing clips that could best be described as the Best of the Million Dollar Man. It just showed some of the skits he has done to get himself over as a heel (like kicking the basketball out of the little kid's hands).

The main event then started with everyone apparently in a mood to work. Things started off fast with the faces dominating the first two falls. Butch Reed was the first to go falling victim to a Hogan leg Bomb. (B). Hogan gave high fives to all his teammates and the ref counted that as a tag which prevented the first Andre Hogan match up and raised the heat quite a bit. Andre, up on seeing that Hogan would not be his opponent then tagged out. The second fall ended with Patera getting double clotheslined and OMC pinning him (C). The next fall was short with Orndorff the next to go as Rude pinned him using the trunks (C+). Rude was finally eliminated next (he appeared to be the "weak link" as he was selling everything) after a Muraco powerslam. That fall was one of the better ones at a B-. Muraco never got a chance to tag out after pinning Rude and himself was pinned after a Gang splash (C-). Bigelow then enter the ring and spent the fall getting destroyed

before he got the hot tag to Hogan. Andre tossed him out of the ring and Hogan battled out there with Gang and Bundy. He bodyslammed both, but it cost him as he was counted out of the ring leaving Bigelow alone against Bundy, Gang and Andre (C). Bigelow had to named the salesman of the night as he took quite a pounding from Bundy before executing the slingshot-swan dive for the pin (B). Gang then came in and destroyed Bigelow and had him down while he mounted the ropes to come off. What happened next was a carbon copy of how Gang lost the UWF title to Bubba with Bigelow moving at the last minute then putting an arm over him for the pin (C+). This left Andre against Bigelow and even though Bam Bam tried, the ending was messed up so that it looked terrible. Standing in a corner with Andre in the middle of the ring, Bam Bam charged out. Andre moved before Bigelow took his first step and so when he crashed into the opposite turnbuckle at full speed, it looked dumb. Andre covered him for a clean pin (D-). This brought Hogan back out of the dressing room and he and Andre went at it (hey, did you expect him not to be able to pose at the end?) before Andre took off. Andre didn't look all that bad (most of the time though he spent holding the ring up) and this ending of course will set up Wrestlemania IV. Bigelow's loss is excusable in the marks' eyes as he had to go up against insurmountable odds before losing. I guess this proves once and for all that Hogan will not do a job. The match overall rates about a B-.

The latest Saturday Night's Main Event is history and for the life of me I can't figure out why they did some of the stuff they did. One note that I found interesting was that our TV Guide listed the show as having had been taped on 11/11 in Seattle. They usually don't do that as I guess they want you to think it's live. Anyway, perhaps if they listed it like this across the country, maybe that's why they made absolutely no reference to the Survivor Series.

Okay. On to the card. It opened with George the Animal Steele showing why he is a leading candidate for Worst Wrestler of the year and winning via Disqualification over Dany Davis. The match was horrible and more so than usual, I was distracted by the doctoring of the crowd noise. The only movement in the crowd was a guy trying to buy some Nachoes yet it sounded like the Metrodome after the Twins won the series. I have no idea why Vince would consent to have this match shown on network TV. Moreover, I can't figure out why they would have it open the show! The opening match on SNME is probably THE most important since viewers who are just flipping the TV dial after the local news might stop if they saw some wrestling. Seeing this match, they probably just went on flipping. I also can't see either, how the dumbest mark in the whole world can turn on this match, sit there and watch it, and still claim that wrestling is real. I gave the match Zzz (that's three Z's).

Fortunately, the card improved several hundred times with the next match. Randy Savage ended up pinning Bret Hart in one of the best SNME matches ever. They played up the angle Randy was out for revenge one by one, for the three guys involved in last times's little fray. Well, like I said, the match was just tremendous with both guys taking some absolutely incredible bumps. It ended after Randy hurt his ankle and was wrestling "one-legged". Randy was on the outside and Bret was fixing to suplex him into the ring. He instead went with a bodyslam, but Randy held on and cradled Bret for the pin. I gave the effort a solid A with special mention to Bret for the outstanding work he did.

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Hogan's match with Bundy was next. It ended with Hogan being counted out of the ring but not before developing a storyline that should become quite familiar. During the match, Hogan was coming off the ropes and Andre (who was at ringside) grabbed his leg sending him sprawling. The referee stopped the match and instead of disqualifying Bundy, he ordered Andre from ringside. Time for a station break while Andre and Hogan exchanged a few words and Andre was led away from the ring. At the end, Hogan was climbing back in the ring when Heenan ran up and held on to his leg resulting in Hogan being counted out. Hogan kicked him away and as a result of that, Heenan is back to wearing his neck brace (even though he forgot it for Survivors. I gave the match a D+, mainly because it looked almost like a re-run of Hogan-Andre at Wrestlemania only with Bundy as the challenger.

In the final match of the night, Bam Bam Bigelow defeated Hercules Hernandez in a strange match. The match went to a double count out to begin with, but Bam Bam crawled back in the ring and got on the house mike saying that he didn't come all the way to Seattle just to draw. He said that he came to either win or lose and that he wanted to finish the match. While Herc was deciding whether or not to get back in the ring, we just happened to get time for a station break (I will say this for McMahon...he does come up with some creative ways to have this happen...and I do like this better than "We've got to go to a commercial! If the match should happen to end, we'll keep the cameras rolling"). He did decide to continue (surprise of surprises) and the match after the count out got pretty good. Bigelow caught Herc coming off the rope (in his arms...not with a punch or anything) and slammed him and followed it with his swan dive from the outside to score the win. I gave the match a B- which would have been higher if not for the match before the commercial break.

Also scheduled for the card was Hillbilly Jim against Ted DiBiase, but for some reason, it never made it to the air. I don't know why as it had to be a better match than the one they opened with.

Other news and comments....a caller the other night had an interesting question...he wondered if since now Randy is a babyface, will he and Liz fall in love and get married? That's not a bad idea, especially if they are wanting to start a family one of these days (which I have no idea on so don't read anything into it).

Johnny V looks to be history, but at least it looks to be a friendly parting. Dino Bravo is now being managed by Frenchie Martin and I believe Greg Valentine is back with Jimmy Hart. Valiant was present for the Survivors so he's at least sticking around until they do something official with the switches.

And finally, the Shammies, or ah, Slammies, will be taped on 12/16 from Atlantic City and broadcast on the Fox network on 12/19. I believe that's the night I'm scheduled to clip my toenails or something equally important, so I may not get to watch it. Shucks.

WORLD CLASS  
BY JEFF SIEGEL

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Well, you read it here first. The "Von Erichs Over America" tour is off to a resounding flop...errr, start. Less than 300 fans in Birmingham on November 7, followed by a whopping crowd of 2,500 in San Antonio on the 11th -- in a town, by the way, that I'm told had "Wrestlemania"-scale advertising for weeks leading up to the actual card. Guess that means it won't be long before Bum brightens up and pulls the plug. Just think -- if he only read the Forum, he could have saved himself some serious bucks.

Finally got a chance to see the Thing. Personally, I think he's got more in common with Kermit than anyone else. Green, green, green. With a frizzy hairdo that would make Pampero Firpo proud. Prognosis: three to four weeks in the territory before Fritz has him doing jobs for Kerry.

And speaking of Kerry, it looks more and more like he'll have the Worth-las belt strapped around his waist by the time January 1 rolls around. Actually, I don't know what they're waiting for. If anyone's got drawing power at all left in World Class, it's Kerry (aided no doubt by the fact that he's been predominately inactive for so long). And it's not likely the Kevin Von Erich-Al Perez "feud" is up for "Feud of the year". Maybe Fritz should've made the change on the Thanksgiving card. Anyway, it should at least provide a decent draw for the big Christmas extravaganza.

And just when you thought they didn't have enough belts in World Class, Mil(s) Mascaras is parading around with the IWA World Championship. Anyone remember when Mascaras used to hold the world title for a group that ran on the east coast in the early seventies? I believe that it was called the IWA (International Wrestling Association), too. Anyway, while I doubt it's the same belt, it certainly enables Fritz to compete with Jim Crockett Promotions for the number of titles/number of wrestlers in the promotion ratio (hey, there's something to figure out for the Incredibly Stupid Statistic Department!).

Steve Cox is headed in, freshly banished from the Crockett stable. Look for him to team up with Sean Simpson (the new South African Express?). Not a bad idea, since Sean can't get over in tag matches, let alone singles competition.

You may remember the trouble Kevin Von Erich and Rick Hazard had in Japan last time they went. Seems that they had such a good time, that Fritz has decided to send them back some thing not unlike what Romans did to Christians back in the Coliseum. Kevin and Kerry (complete with fused ankle) will head over to the island nation to see some limited competition in the annual tag team tournament. Rick won't be going a long this time so Kevin won't have anyone to either "protect" him or take his beating for him. Fritz says that his boys are the only American wrestlers that the Japanese people love. Wouldn't you hate to see how they were treated if they didn't love them?

We're trying to locate the Thanksgiving card results for you and if we do, we'll stick them in the results section. Trouble is, Fritz cancelled his 900-number hot line (at \$2.00 a minute I don't imagine it was exactly flooded with calls) and we've not yet received a call from the 300 or so plus that attended the card. Such is life.

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## RESULTS FROM ALL OVER

11-14 LOS ANGELES (WWF) - COURTESY OF ANDY DRAGOS... SD Jones pinned Billy Anderson (C)...Ultimate Warrior over Barry Horowitz (C+)...Zhukov/Volkoff pinned Rougeau Brothers (B)...Ron Bass defeated Hillbilly Jim (C-)...Muraco downed Hercules (C)...Patera/Haynes beat Demolition by DQ (C+)...Rip Oliver pinned Scott Casey (D+)...Ivan Putski over Steve Lombardi (C-)...DiBiase pinned Jake Roberts (B)...NOTES: Attendance 7000...Hillbilly, despite a losing streak in LA lately, received good babyface heat...Muraco worked hard in his match...Mr. Fuji interfered when BJ had Smash in the full nelson thus the DQ...DiBiase won when Jake had him positioned for DDT, Virgil tried to make the save...Jake went after him and Ted clobbered him from behind and got the pin...Jake then tried to tie Ted up in the rope for Damien, but Virgil made the save and ended up with the snake on him.

11-16 MOLINE, IL (WWF) - COURTESY OF MIKE MILLER... Sam Houston pinned Barry Horowitz (B)...Ultimate Warrior over Steve Lombardi (F)...Sherri Martel pinned Debbie Combs (D)...One Man Gang defeated George Steele (C)...Killer Bees downed Jose Estrada/Jose-Luis Rivera (B)...Bolsheviks beat Rougeau Brothers (C)...Rick Rude pinned Koko B Ware (C-)...Strike Force over Islanders (A)...NOTES: Attendance 2500...1st card in Moline since 12/29/75 when the AWA was there...cards after that were held across the river in Davenport...rating on the OMG-Steele match was due to the comedy only...only big things in Bolsheviks-Rougeau match were the Rougeaus and Boris' head...SF-Islanders was great...everyone had their working shoes on.

11-16 LOS ANGELES (NWA-UWF) - COURTESY OF PAUL GUAY... Jive Tones defeated Tim Patterson/Billy Anderson (C)...Ron Simmons small packaged the Terminator (C)...Sting over Black Bart (C)...Lightening Express over Luke Williams/Johnny Ace (C+)...Michael Hayes over Terry Taylor by DQ (C+)...Barry Windham went to a DXOR with Larry Zbyszko (C)...Nikita pinned Eddie Gilbert (C)...in an elimination tag team match, Ron Garvin/Steve Williams took on Ric Flair/Lex Luger...Doc and Lex were counted out of the ring and a second later Flair hit Garvin with JJ's shoe and pinned him (B-)...NOTES: attendance 850...the guys seemed to be working but still came off as somewhat boring...maybe it was the small crowd...1st time that two "world champs" teamed...kinda of funny to see puny Garvin standing next to a huge Steve Williams, yet Garvin holding the more "prestigious" title.

11-21 BALTIMORE (WWF) - COURTESY OF FRED NAARISMA... Roma/Powers over Conquistadors...Sherri Martel pinned Rockin' Robin (Smith)...Race beat Jim Duggan by DQ...Koko B Ware went to a time limit draw with Ron Bass...Bundy pinned Junkyard Dog...Steele over Killer Khan...Randy Savage/Bulldogs over Hart Foundation/Honky tonk Man...NOTES: Attendance 5000...Conquistadors are a new masked team in the mold of the shadows only dressed in yellow...Robin needs a lot of work...Duggan used a chair to get DQ'd...Opps...missed a result...Hogan pinned OMG after Gang missed a 747 splash...Bundy won in only 3 minutes so JYD's days of getting pushed are history...Steele won his match with a foreign object in about 2:00...Jimmy Hart hit Neidhart with megaphone by mistake and Macho Man pinned him...Randy and HIM never met in the ring.



11-22 HARTFORD, CT (WWF) - COURTESY OF RON LEMIEUX...Frenchie Martin upset Ivan Putski...Bulldogs/Savage over Honky Tonk/Hart Foundation...Race beat Duggan by DQ...Koko pinned Bass...Power/Roma over Conquistadors...Bundy pinned Junkyard Dog...Honky Tonk beat Savage by DQ...DiBiase over Hogan by count out...NOTES: Attendance: 8000...show started a half hour late...they announced that the wrestlers were late getting into the airport...actually only Hogan was late so they had to stall...Honky didn't work hard in the tag match, but his singles match with Savage was a great brawl with both men fighting outside the ring and even on the wrong side of the crowd control barrier...other than that, basically the same card as Baltimore the previous night...in Hogan's match, it went about 15-20 minutes with DiBiase selling everything in sight...end came when Hogan and Ted were outside and Hogan went to throw a punch...Virgil grabbed his arm and they got into it with Virgil smashing Hogan into the ringpost resulting in the count out...Thanks also to ALAN BEVALES and KEVIN CARROLL for sending in the results also...and also thanks to DAN REILLY for helping Ron with his report.

11-22 JOHNSTOWN, PA (NWA) - COURTESY OF JEFF LYNCH...Eddie Gilbert over Jimmy Jackson...Bubba Rogers pinned JOHN Garvin (not jim, not Ron...JOHN)...Kevin Sullivan drew Rick Steiner...Paul Ellering pinned JJ Dillon...Arn Anderson downed Robert Gibson...Ricky Morton beat Tully Blanchard...Warriors over Midnight Express by PINFALL...NOTES: Attendance 2000...Kevin vs Steiner was a great brawl and although it didn't have the intensity of the main even, it was the best match on the card...Start of manager's match had JJ pretending the zipper on his jacket was stuck...neither he nor ref could get it undone, but as soon as Ellering turned his back, JJ attacked, the zipper worked fins and he choked Paul with the jacket...Morton-Blanchard was billed as a one fall Texas death match and featured the referee trying to enforce rules in a match that supposedly had none (?!?!)...Bubba was holding Hawk while Lane went to hit him with the racquet (blind ref), but Hawk ducked, Bubba got hit and Hawk got the racquet...he hit Lane and scored the pin.

11-24 NEW YORK CITY (WWF) - COURTESY OF JOE MANNA...Ultimate Warrior over Frenchie Martin (C-)...Glamour Girls over Jumping bomb Angels (A-)...Rude over Orndorff (C+)...Savage beat Honky Tonk by count out (B+)...Jake destroyed Danny Davis (C)...Strike Force defeated Hart Foundation (B)...DiBiase pinned Putski (C+)...Bigelow pinned Bundy (B-)...NOTES: Attendance around 10,000...Frenchie fell wrong after a slam and it elicited the comments of both Gorilla and Bockwinkel...In Savage HTM match, Savage was actually outside the ring while HTM was laying inside on the apron when the ref counted HTM out and awarded the match to Savage (huh?)...Davis had absolutely NO offense against Jake and was carried out on a stretcher...looked fine two nights later at the Survivor Series...Bigelow sold a Bundy clothesline as good as the Mulkies used to...Harts-SF had a slow first half but the 2nd half was good.

11-26 MINNEAPOLIS (AWA) - COURTESY OF WADE KELLER AND THE PRO WRESTLING TORCH...Nick Kiniski beat Alan West by DQ (C-)...Medusa Micelli beat Bambi (C-)...Mitch Snow/JT Southern over midnight Express by DQ...Adonis pinned Tommy Rich (Zzzzz)...Nord over Soldat via DQ (B-)...DJ Peterson over Kevin Kelly (A)...Greggie beat Curt for title (A)...NOTES: Attendance 1200...Bambi is terrible...Snow was in tag match most of the time and juiced heavily...had to be stretchered out...Rich-Adonis earns our lowest rating ever...FIVE Z's!...Dangerously was good at ringside and even got in the middle of a "rowboat" that the faces had the heels in...see AWA report for details on the championship match.

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## MISCELLANEOUS STUFF

Last issue's trivia question seemed to be a real stumper. I only received two letters with the correct answers although many of you were very creative with your responses. The question was "Who is Grenville Clark and what does he have to do with the publication of Wrestling Forum". Answers ranged from "the guy who fixed your copier" to a famous writer who inspired you" to "Dusty Rhodes' real father". I told you this was a toughie and that I was playing mean...Grenville Clark is the guy whose picture appears on the 39¢ stamp that it requires to get this bulletin to you. Take that, you trivia buffs! Next question was supplied by Dan Douglas of Hermitage, PA (even though he doesn't know it yet). It is: What does Gorilla Monsoon's license plates say? (Nothing. You have to read them, yuck, yuck, doesn't count as a correct answer). Answer next time. I might add, for the benefit of our new readers, there is no prize for the correct answer. This is just for fun even though some do send in their answers each time.

Well, we made it through one of the busiest weeks in pro wrestling ever. Two major promotions plus the nWA's first visit to New York in a couple of years, plus a Saturday night's Main Event. Whew! I wonder how many divorces this weekend was responsible for. As things heat up for the beginning of the year, I would imagine this is a preview of things to come.

Quite a bit of the time spent here on these pages is by moaning and groaning about the way a promotion is being run. We practically demand that a promotion listen to our gripes and from time to time change things in order to keep things fresh. It's time to practice what we preach. After the first of the year, Jeff Siegel has informed me that he would like to resign from the World Class beat to concentrate more on the Barometer, individual columns, and his role in the United Association of Wrestling Fans. I begrudgingly accept this as I know Jeff's sharp wit and acid remarks about Papa Fritz are going to be missed. However, it should improve the bulletin in other ways as well. Jeff has been expressing for a long time that he wishes that he could write positive things about the promotion, but it seems like there is very little to write about in that regard. Either I will handle the World Class report myself after January 1, (which means I have to start watching their show on a regular basis -- yechhh!) or if anyone out there would like to give it a try, contact me and we'll talk about it.

Also, after the first of the year, we are going to add to our reports Stampede wrestling as well as a Pacific Northwest report. I am still working on getting something going down in Alabama as I've had two correspondents lined up, but both have fallen through. If anyone can help, let me know.

A quick staff note...Happy Birthday to UAWF President Sean Grande who will be turning 18 on the 11th of December. Seems like he only turned 17 a year ago. My how time flies.

Let me take care of a couple of reader requests...Mike DiPietro of 275 Gorham Road, Scarborough, ME 04074 is interested in buying, selling and trading VHS tapes from all areas. He is most interested in WWF tapings of the following: Monthly shows at the Spectrum, MSG & Boston (pre 1986) and the regular syndicated shows. He's also looking for older magazines, posters, and other wrestling related material. Also, Tim Sorkin of 1211 Wesley Ave in Evanston, IL 60202 has a tape list that's 40+ pages. Write to him for details. If you have a request, just write to me and I'll share it with the rest of our readers as we have space. The only requirement is that you must be a subscriber (and if you're not, then you can't be reading this anyway, right?). Oh... if anyone has a copy of that story that appeared in Penthouse Hot Talk, I have someone who is interested in a copy but doesn't want his name

published, though I can't imagine why.

In case you haven't noticed, I'm using a different type--writer for part of the bulletin this time. The one I usually use got a drink of Pepsi by accident Sunday afternoon, and heeds to go to the doctor. The only one I could find to borrow was this one that they used to type the Mayflower Compact with. you may be able to tell, we aren't getting along real well. Unless they tell me the Pepsi was fatal and afford my typewriter last rites, we'll be back to normal next time with only ONE xxxx when I hit that key. If not, buy some stock in a Liquid Paper Company.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO...Ken Resnik? Not nearly enough. Seriously, Ken has been spotted hawking items on the Cable Value Network, one of those home shopping services. I guess there's not a whole lot of difference between this and his last job. I wonder if he's got any typewriters cheap?

Steve Gentry sent along an interesting letter he received from Mason-Dixon Sports d/b/a the American Wrestling Federation. The letter is from the training school telling prospective students that tuition is going from \$2000 to \$3000 but, the most interesting part is where they tell prospective students that they will have the chance to work with stars such as Bruiser Brody, Abdullah, Chris Adams, Terry Taylor, Jack Victory, Tony Atlas (what are they trying to do? Kill new students?) and more. Terry Taylor? What's his name doing there? Do they know something we don't? The letter is dated 11/24.

I also just received a very interesting clip from a newspaper in Philadelphia concerning the athletic commission there and attempts to deregulate the sport. I don't have time to go into it in any great detail (next time I will), but basically, they are trying to get it so that athletic commissioners like the infamous JJ Binns (who threatened to stop a Crockett show mid match one time because of a bad blade job) have no control over the matches. It promises to be a hot topic out in Pennsylvania and we'll keep a close eye on the situation.

I forgot to thank Wade Keller in the AWA section this time. Almost the entire report is a result of a phone conversation with him. Wade sees the bulletin PRO WRESTLING TORCH which comes out every other Thursday at a cost of \$1.25 per issue. It's one of those bulletins to watch as it's very good already. Each issue includes a color photograph. Address is Torch, box 201844, Minneapolis, MN 55420.

I just bought stamps and was told that I should inform readers that next issue may be delayed. Not my fault, but the Post office tells me that the 15th of December is the Heaviest mail day of the Christmas season. I would guess the same holds true for our April 15 issue.

That's it for another issue of Wrestling Forum. Hope to see you back here on these pages next time. Have a good holiday season!

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